

DEPARTMENTAL REGULATION		Number: 1042-101
SUBJECT: Renewal of the Burley Tobacco Advisory Committee	DATE: June 19, 2000	
	OPI: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)	

1 PURPOSE

a The Secretary of Agriculture has the responsibility for providing tobacco inspection services, under the Tobacco Inspection Act, 7 U.S.C. 511-511q, to all auction markets designated pursuant to the Act. Without said inspection services, no tobacco may be sold at auction on any designated market. To accomplish this purpose the Burley Tobacco Advisory Committee is hereby renewed.

b In order for the Secretary to provide inspection services under the Act in a manner equitable to all producers and to promote an orderly marketing system, there is a need to obtain information from representatives of all segments of the burley tobacco industry. The objective of the Burley Tobacco Advisory Committee is to provide advice to the Secretary in making an equitable apportionment and assignment of tobacco inspectors by recommending annual opening dates for auctions within the burley tobacco growing area and recommending selling schedules for the markets therein.

2 SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/CANCELLATION

a This regulation shall terminate 2 years from date of filing.

b Departmental Regulation 1042-101, dated June 16, 1998, is superseded by this regulation.

3 OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP

a The Committee, to be appointed by the Secretary, will consist of 39 members, each of whom shall have an alternate. The Committee will be composed of 21 producers, 10 warehouse representatives, and 8 buyers.

b Equal opportunity practices, in line with USDA policies, will be followed in all membership appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the

Department, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

c The Committee shall elect from among its members a Chairperson, First and Second Vice-Chairperson, and a Secretary.

d No Vice-Chairperson shall be elected who is a representative of the same segment of the industry as the Chairperson or other Vice-Chairperson.

e The officers shall be elected by majority vote of those members present to serve for 2 years or until their successors are elected.

f Pursuant to sections 10(e) and (f) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Deputy Administrator or a delegated representative of the Tobacco Programs, AMS, shall represent the U.S. Department of Agriculture at each meeting and shall have the authority to adjourn meetings whenever he/she considers adjournment to be in the public interest.

4 DUTIES

a Select such officers from its members and establish such bylaws as it deems necessary.

b Make recommendations to the Secretary with regard to the placement of tobacco inspectors and the scheduling of inspection services at designated burley tobacco markets and such other matters as it may deem advisable or which the Secretary, Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, AMS Administrator, or AMS Tobacco Programs' Deputy Administrator, may request.

c Accept from any tobacco producer, trade or business organization or Government agency such information pertinent to the efficient placement of inspectors and inspection scheduling as may be offered or requested, and to consider the same in making recommendations.

5 ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COST

a Members shall serve without pay, but with reimbursement of travel expenses and per diem for attendance at Committee meetings.

b Annual operating costs are estimated at \$42,000.

c All funds utilized in support of the Committee are derived from user fees.

6 NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The Committee will meet an estimated three times each year in preparation for and throughout the burley tobacco marketing season. All meetings are open to the public.

7 REPORTS/SUPPORT

a The Committee reports to the Secretary of Agriculture through the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.

b Support for the Committee will be provided by AMS, Tobacco Programs. Federal staff support is estimated at 0.5 staff years.

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